

Sitka Spruce Weevil

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116.2 1400 ✓

R.O. Mac Millen

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Bob MacMillen
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no space

February 17, 1960

Mr. R. O. Mac Millen, Divisional Forester
Renfrew Logging Division
Port Renfrew, British Columbia

Dear Mr. Mac Millen:

Your letter of February 2 to Robert Madison of our Corvallis Research Center has been referred to this office for reply.

We have been making a small study on the trend of damage by the Sitka spruce weevil in the Cascade Head clearcut area discussed in Mr. Madison's research note. Our study began in 1955, and is being made on plots other than those reported in Research Note 178 -- although they are immediately adjacent to them. There are some 235 spruce on our plots and weeviling for the past 5 years has been as follows:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Percent of trees weeviled</u>
1955	.9
1956	1.3
1957	1.3
1958	3.9
1959	2.2

From observations on other plots in northwestern Oregon, we expect that weeviling on the plots will: (1) increase for several years, (2) remain at a fairly high level until the trees are 25 to 30 years old, and (3) then begin to decline.

On other weevil plots, particularly those that are inland on warm sites, up to 35 percent of the trees have been weeviled annually. Despite this heavy damage, the stands are doing quite well where full stocking exists, because the weeviled trees straighten up quickly under heavy competition for light. Conversely, open-grown trees that have been weeviled frequently are little more than shrubs.

We are enclosing 2 copies of a paper on this subject by K.H. Wright and D. H. Baisinger that may be of interest to you. It is entitled the Silvicultural Importance of the Sitka Spruce Weevil in Coastal Oregon and Washington and appeared in the Proceedings of the 1955 National meeting of the Society of American Foresters.

2--Mr. R. O. MacMillen--February 17, 1960

A copy of this letter is being sent to R. R. Lejeune at the Forest Biology Laboratory in Victoria. I would suggest that you discuss your problem with him. However, if we can be of further assistance, please let us know.

Yours very truly,

R. W. COWLIN, Director

cc: R.R. Lejeune

E. G. DUNFORD
By: E. G. Dunford, Acting

Enclosures

KHW
KHWright:mkh